Calcutta Metro Railways

1225. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work on Calcutta metro railway is running behind schedule;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in its commissioning;

(c) whether any foreign collaboration has been sought for technical know-how to complete this project; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and the extent of foreign exchange involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) (i) An agreement has been entered into by the Railways with USSR for import of certain equipment and for consultancy in respect of certain areas of construction, payment being made in Rupees under Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement.

(ii) Following Metro Railway Contractors have also entered into foreign collaboration agreements for which foreign exchange has been arranged by the Railways;

1. M/S. RITES with experts from France and U.K. for consultancy in certain areas of operation and maintenance.

2. M/S Hindustan Construction Company with M/s Taisei of Japan and with M/S Nikex of Hungary for import of equipment and for consultancy for certain construction works.

2. M|S AFCONS with M|S Tebebau Gm bH of West Germany and with Roaio of Italy for import of certain equipment and for consultancy for construction of under-pass.

(iii) Equipment to about Rs. 10 crores.

Electrification of Jhansi-Itarsi railway line

1226. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of electrification of Jhansi Itarsi Railway line;

(b) whether it is likely to be completed as per schedule;

(c) if so, what's the likely date of its completion;

(d) what will be the resultent impact on the railway traffc on this route after commissioning thereof;

(e) whether this electrification is likely to be extended to Bhusawal-Nagpur Railway line; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The project involves electrification of about 381 KMs. of the section at an estimated cost of Rs. 107.82 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) By the end of the year 1988-89.

(d) Railways will be able to carry more traffic by running heavier trains at a faster speed.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The project involves electrification of about 393 Kms., at an estimated cost of Rs. 97.08 crores.

Youth Programme

1227. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of youth programmes extended to rural areas, other than National Service Scheme (N.S.S.)?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): The programme of Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) being implemented in different parts of the country for rural youth with a view to improving the total personality of youth and to prepare them for life and work, is a major youth programme. At present NYKs are functioning in 248 districts in the country. Rural youth are the main beneficiaries of the programme operated by the NYKs. Recently, an autonomous organisation named Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan has been set up to administer the Nehru Yuva Kendras.

Apart from the programmes of NYKs, there are also other youth programmes like Promotion of National Integration, Promotion of Adventure, Assistance to Voluntary Organisations, Training of Youth, Exhibitions for Youth and Assistance to Youth Clubs etc. under which Rural youth are also benefited.

Mid-day meal Scheme for school children

1228. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SAGAR RAYKA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of ten States which have undertaken the mid-day meal scheme with specific reference to the number of children covered by each State and the expenditure incurred thereon, statewise, as on date;

(b) whether Government propose to share full or part of this expenditure and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to train the personnel in catering science to effectively manage the mid-day meal schemes and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The scheme of mid-day meals is in operation with varying coverage in most States and UTs in the country today. It was started in different States at different times with the basic aim to provide nutritional facility to children in primary schools. In some States it covers students beyond the primary stage also.

The State-wise coverage is shown in the Statement. (*See* Appendix CXLII, Annexure No. 64]

Since the scheme of mid-day meals is being run in the State sector, the details of expenditure incurred by each State on this programme are not available in the Ministry.

(b) and (c) No such schemes are under consideration.

Computerised railway reservation at stations in Gujarat

1229. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of railway stations in Gujarat which are equipped with the computerised railway reservation network; and

(b) whether Government propose to link various important railway stations of Gujarat and Saurashtra with the Central Computer Reservation Network; if so, what are the details thereof and by when they are likely to be in operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) At present no network as such of computerised railway passenger reservations is available on Indian Railways. One stand-alone computerised reservation system has been set up at Delhi. Implementation of similar systems at Bombay and Calcutta is in progress. During 1987-88,